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Senate

The Senate met at 11 a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable MARK R. WARNER, a Senator from the Commonwealth of Virginia.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

Immortal, invisible, God only wise, You know our needs before we ask You but wait to bless us until we ask You for Your help. So, Lord, we are asking You to fill our lawmakers with energy for the tasks You have assigned their hands to do. Let no pride of power betray them into rejecting Your precepts and purposes, but help them face the challenges of these difficult times with a total dependence on You.

Lord, save us from ourselves, as You help us to remember that in our Nation's history, well-meaning people have sown to the wind but reaped the whirlwind.

While our military men and women risk and give their lives for liberty overseas, may we be willing to sacrifice for freedom at home.

Lord, without Your help, we cannot succeed; with Your power, we cannot fail.

We pray in Your merciful Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable MARK R. WARNER led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mr. INOUE).

The assistant legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, April 8, 2011.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable MARK R. WARNER, a Senator from the Commonwealth of Virginia, to perform the duties of the Chair.

DANIEL K. INOUE,
President pro tempore.

Mr. WARNER thereupon assumed the chair as Acting President pro tempore.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader is recognized.

SCHEDULE

Mr. REID. Mr. President, following any leader remarks, there will be a period of morning business until 4 o'clock this afternoon for debate only, with Senators permitted to speak for up to 10 minutes each during this time, with the time equally divided and controlled between the two leaders or their designees.

We are very hopeful we can reach agreement on the budget today. I will have more to say about that in a few minutes. Senators will be notified when votes are scheduled.

ORDER OF PROCEDURE

Mr. President, I now ask unanimous consent that the Senate recess from 1 p.m. this afternoon until 2 p.m. this afternoon in order to allow for a special Democratic caucus meeting.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR—H.R. 1255 AND S. 768

Mr. REID. Mr. President, there are two bills at the desk due for a second reading.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will report the bills by title for the second time.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 1255) to prevent a shutdown of the government of the United States, and for other purposes.

A bill (S. 768) to provide for continuing operations of government in a fiscally responsible manner.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I object to further proceedings in regard to these bills en bloc.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Objection is heard. The bills will be placed on the calendar.

BUDGET NEGOTIATIONS

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I have been married for a long time—more than 50 years. My wife and I have one daughter and nine grandchildren. I love these women very, very much. One day, though, I may not be able to help them, and one of them may need a cancer screening. It is not a pleasant thought, but that is the reality of life—that I may not be around to help them when they need something.

Over their lives, they will be in need of other things, such as a cholesterol check, maybe a blood pressure screening—tests that are less serious but just as important to a woman's health. They should be able to get the test that can save their life. So should every single woman in America. I believe that and, frankly, that is not so controversial. It is not so controversial a belief.

Some women, of course, have doctors. Others, including many of the poorest among us, don't. So where do they go to get a blood pressure, cholesterol, or cancer screening? Where do they go? Thankfully, there is a little-known part of a little-known law that saves many lives. It is called title X, and it is part of a public health law. It means women and girls can go to their

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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